

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A beauty analysis method, comprising:

instructing a subject to position a body part adjacent a display device and within a field of capture of an image capture device;

sending a signal to the display device to generate light in a predetermined wave length range for irradiating the body part;

capturing an image of the body part with the image capture device while the body part is irradiated with the light, in the predetermined wave length range, emitted from the display device; and

processing the image to derive information about at least one characteristic of the body part.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined wave length range includes wave lengths that effectuate a flash of light from the display device.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined wave length includes wave lengths in red light.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein instructing a subject includes at least one of transmitting instructions to the subject over a network, transmitting instructions to the subject in the form of software, and instructing the subject via hard-copy form of instructions.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein sending a signal to the display device includes providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for sending the signal.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein processing the image includes providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein processing the image is accomplished at least partially using artificial intelligence.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein processing the image includes comparing the image to a plurality of images in a database.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising prescribing at least one beauty product to the subject as a function of the at least one characteristic.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic is chosen from skin tone, skin texture, wrinkles, blood vessels, hair, pigmentation, freckles, and skin oiliness.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein capturing an image includes providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for causing the image capture device to capture a calibrating image.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the body part is a face of the subject.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

capturing a first image of the body part using the image capture device;

processing the first image to thereby calculate at least an approximate first position of the body part relative to at least one of the image capture device and the display device;

comparing the calculated first position with a desired reference position;

instructing the subject to move the body part closer to the desired reference position; and

capturing a second image of the body part after the body part has moved.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein instructing the subject to move includes providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for instructing the subject.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein processing of the first image includes at least one of determining whether the first image includes an entire image of the subject's body part, determining whether the first image includes a portion of the subject's body part, determining whether the subject's body part is centered in the first image, and determining a size of the subject's body part in the first image.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein comparing includes calculating a displacement between the calculated first position and the desired reference position, and determining whether the displacement is greater than a threshold value.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein instructing the subject to move includes instructing the subject to move when the displacement is greater than a threshold value.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein instructing the subject to move includes providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for instructing the subject to move.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein capturing a first image of the subject's body part and capturing a second image of the subject's body part include at least one of receiving an instruction from the subject to capture a body part image, indicating to the subject when a body part image is about to be captured, and indicating to the subject when a body part image is captured.

20. The method of claim 13, further including:

processing the second image to thereby calculate at least an approximate second position of the subject's body part relative to at least one of the image capture device and the display device;

comparing the calculated second position with a desired reference position to determine a displacement; and

instructing the subject to move the subject's body part closer to the desired reference position when the displacement is greater than a threshold value.

21. A beauty analysis system, comprising:

means for instructing a subject to position a body part adjacent a display device and within a field of capture of an image capture device;

means for sending a signal to the display device to generate light in a predetermined wave length range for irradiating the body part;

means for capturing an image of the body part with the image capture device while the body part is irradiated with the light, in the predetermined wave length range, emitted from the display device; and

means for processing the image to derive information about at least one characteristic of the body part.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the predetermined wave length range includes wave lengths that effectuate a flash of light from the display device.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein the predetermined wave length includes wave lengths in red light.

24. The system of claim 21, wherein the means for instructing a subject includes at least one of means for transmitting instructions to the subject over a network, means for transmitting instructions to the subject in the form of software, and means for instructing the subject via hard-copy form of instructions.

25. The system of claim 21, wherein the means for sending a signal to the display device includes means for providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for sending the signal.

26. The system of claim 21, wherein the means for processing the image includes means for providing access to at least of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm.

27. The system of claim 21, wherein the means for processing the image uses artificial intelligence.

28. The system of claim 21, wherein the means for processing the image includes means for comparing the image to a plurality of images in a database.

29. The system of claim 21, further comprising means for prescribing at least one beauty product to the subject as a function of the at least one characteristic.

30. The system of claim 21, wherein the characteristic is chosen from skin tone, skin texture, wrinkles, blood vessels, hair, pigmentation, freckles, and skin oiliness.

31. The system of claim 21, wherein the means for capturing an image includes means for providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for causing the image capture device to capture a calibrating image.

32. The system of claim 21, wherein the body part is a face of the subject.

33. The system of claim 21, further comprising:

means for capturing a first image of the body part using the image capture device;

means for processing the first image to thereby calculate at least an approximate first position of the body part relative to at least one of the image capture device and the display device;

means for comparing the calculated first position with a desired reference position;

means for instructing the subject to move the body part closer to the desired reference position; and

means for capturing a second image of the body part after the body part has moved.

34. The system of claim 33, wherein the means for instructing the subject to move includes means for providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for instructing the subject.

35. The system of claim 33, wherein the means for processing of the first image includes at least one of means for determining whether the first image includes an entire image of the subject's body part, means for determining whether the first image includes a portion of the subject's body part, means for determining whether the subject's body part is centered in the first image, and means for determining a size of the subject's body part in the first image.

36. The system of claim 33, wherein the means for comparing includes means for calculating a displacement between the calculated first position and the desired reference position, and means for determining whether the displacement is greater than a threshold value.

37. The system of claim 36, wherein the means for instructing the subject to move includes means for instructing the subject to move when the displacement is greater than a threshold value.

38. The system of claim 33, wherein the means for instructing the subject to move includes means for providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for instructing the subject to move.

39. The system of claim 33, wherein the means for capturing a first image of the subject's body part and the means for capturing a second image of the subject's body part include at least one of means for receiving an instruction from the subject to capture a body part image, means for indicating to the subject when a body part image is about to be captured, and means for indicating to the subject when a body part image is captured.

40. The system of claim 33, further including:

means for processing the second image to thereby calculate at least an approximate second position of the subject's body part relative to at least one of the image capture device and the display device;

means for comparing the calculated second position with a desired reference position to determine a displacement; and

means for instructing the subject on how to move the subject's body part closer to the desired reference position when the displacement is greater than a threshold value.

41. An image capture method, comprising:

instructing a subject to position a body part adjacent a display device and adjacent an image capture device;

sending a signal to the display device to generate light in a predetermined wave length range for irradiating the body part; and

capturing an image of the body part with the image capture device while the body part is irradiated with the light, in the predetermined wave length range, emitted from the display device.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein the predetermined wave length range includes wave lengths that effectuate a flash of light from the display device.

43. The method of claim 41, wherein the predetermined wave length includes wave lengths in red light.

44. The method of claim 41, wherein instructing a subject includes at least one of transmitting instructions to the subject over a network, transmitting

instructions to the subject in the form of software, and instructing the subject via instructions in hard-copy form.

45. The method of claim 41, wherein sending a signal to the display device includes providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm and a server-based algorithm for sending the signal.

46. A image capture system, comprising:

means for instructing a subject to position a body part adjacent a display device and adjacent an image capture device;

means for sending a signal to the display device to generate light in a predetermined wave length range for irradiating the body part; and

means for capturing an image of the body part with the image capture device while the body part is irradiated with the light, in the predetermined wave length range, emitted from the display device.

47. The system of claim 46, wherein the predetermined wave length range includes wave lengths that effectuate a flash of light from the display device.

48. The system of claim 46, wherein the predetermined wave length includes wave lengths in red light.

49. The system of claim 46, wherein means for instructing a subject includes at least one of means for transmitting instructions to the subject over a

network, means for transmitting instructions to the subject in the form of software, and means for instructing the subject via instructions in hard-copy form.

50. The system of claim 46, wherein means for sending a signal to the display device includes means for providing access to at least one of a client-based algorithm or server-based algorithm for sending the signal.

51. A combination, comprising:

a least one tool for gathering information related to beauty;

an image capture device for capturing an image of an external body condition of a subject; and

a driver for driving the image capture device to capture the body condition image of the subject, wherein the image capture device, the driver and the at least one tool are packaged and distributed together in order to facilitate an electronic beauty analysis.

52. The method of claim 51, wherein the tool is configured to gather at least one of physical information, physiological information, and biological information.

53. The method of claim 51, wherein the tool comprises at least one of a pH indicator, sebutape, and a corneodisque indicator.